

## LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Graybar Building, 420 Lexington Avenue

New York, N. Y.

June 14, 1935.

Hon. Thomas Walker Page, Chairman,  
Committee for Reciprocity Information,  
United States Tariff Commission,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Subject: Trade Agreement Negotiations with France,  
and its colonies, dependencies, and pro-  
tectorates, other than Morocco.

Product: Lead ores (Par. 391), pig lead and metallic  
lead products (Par. 392), lead pigments  
(Par. 72), and foil (Par. 372 and 397).

In connection with the trade negotiations to be conducted by the State Department with France, and its colonies, dependencies, and protectorates other than Morocco, the Lead Industries Association, representing the lead mining, smelting, refining and manufacturing industry in the United States, respectfully desires to make the following statement:

The recent action of the French Government in raising its tariff on lead products to 25 per cent from 18 per cent, as reported in the press, is an indication that the French lead industry is not upon an export basis and that the American producers have not much to fear from French competition in lead products even though labor rates in France are lower than in the United States.

In recognition of this situation, our Association is not preparing any brief giving details about the French position. We are, however, apprehensive, based upon our experience with the Belgian Trade Agreement, that the negotiations with France may single out some lead commodity such as lead in the form of ores, concentrates, pig lead, foil, pigments, or metallic lead products, for bargaining purposes, even though France may be a minor factor in the production of these commodities, and that, because of the most-favored-nation agreements, our country has with European countries whose ability to export lead products to the United States is in an entirely different category, our industries may be unwarrantably injured.

If, therefore, there is a likelihood of any lead product being considered in the French negotiations, we would respectfully refer you to the brief we filed under date of March 8, 1935, on the Canadian Reciprocal Treaty, which went into details as to why it is essential for the American lead rates to be maintained.

Respectfully submitted,  
LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

*J. W. Worman*  
Secretary.

